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Dorking Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND OF

THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1947



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WEST HILL HOUSE,
WEST HILL,
EPSOM.

31st August, 1948

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit an Annual Report for the year 1947 which has been prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 170/47.

The vital statistics of the district for the year were satisfactory. The infant mortality rate remained low and there were no deaths from maternal causes. With regard to the incidence of infectious diseases, it is to be noted that there was only one case of diphtheria. On the other hand many notifications of whooping cough were received. The production of an effective immunising agent or of a drug specific in its actions against this disease would be of great value in preserving child health. Research work of an encouraging nature is being carried out in this direction.

An important epidemiological feature of the year was the large outbreak of anterior poliomyelitis yet recorded in this country, which occurred in the second half of the year. In this district three cases were notified, and one Dorking resident died from the disease whilst on holiday.

There were slight increases in the incidence and mortality rates for tuberculosis. Owing to the shortage of beds there was often delay in obtaining admission of patients to hospital for treatment which in many cases must have had an adverse effect on the course of the disease. There was also the unfortunate result that contacts were exposed to infection at a time when the patient's infectivity was likely to be high.

The National Health Service Act came into operation on 5th July 1948. Its immediate effect on the work of the Public Health Department of this Council will be small, as most of the functions dealt with in the Act have been the responsibility of other authorities in the past. Responsibility for immunisation schemes will pass to the County Council, whose proposal it is to ask the Urban District Council to allow their Medical Officer of Health to continue to direct the local administration of this work.

The repeal of the Vaccination Acts, with the abolition of compulsory vaccination and of the appointments of public vaccinators and vaccination officers, will enable the County Council to make similar arrangements for voluntary vaccination as it has done for diphtheria immunisation.

A matter of interest to county district authorities, including this district, is the proposal of the County Council to set up sub-committees of its health committee to function in the nine divisions of the county which have been created for the purpose of health administration. The

Dorking Urban District lies within the Southern Division together with the Borough of Reigate, and the Rural Districts of Dorking and Horley and of Godstone. The area of the division coincides with that of the Divisional Executive set up under the Education Act. The strong representation of county districts on the divisional health sub-committees should have the effect of allowing local public opinion and knowledge to make its influence felt and to arouse greater local interest in the administration of the functions with which they will be concerned, mainly relating to the health of mothers and young children.

The transfer of the Isolation Hospital to the Regional Hospital Board set up under the National Health Service Act is not likely to cause any immediate alteration in the manner in which patients suffering from infectious disease are dealt with. Although it is probable that more patients from other districts will be admitted to the hospital, it is hoped that local residents will still have first call on accommodation. The Isolation Hospital as a building is in many ways out of date, but in the charge of a matron who has devoted herself most conscientiously to those in her care, it has served the district well for many years. The transfer of Miss E. Bullen and her staff to the Regional Hospital Board is accompanied by the good wishes of her present colleagues.

It is a pleasure to record again the great assistance which I have received from the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his staff, and from my own clerical staff, and of the co-operation which has been given me by other officers of the Council staff. I am very conscious of the continued goodwill and support which I have received from the Council.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Dorking Urban District Council

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

CYRUS IVE, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.),
D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

*D. ALLAN, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

*N. G. TUBB, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H. (Resigned 31-8-47)
F. R. BEALING, M.S.I.A. (Appointed 3-12-47)

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff :

Senior Clerk : C. H. ARGENT

Typist : Miss B. CROFT

Junior Clerk : M. A. FORSHAW (Temporary)

Senior Sanitary Inspector's Clerical Staff:

D. S. BATES

(The Medical Officer of Health and his Clerical Assistants act in similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, the Urban District of Leatherhead and the Rural District of Dorking and Horley)

* Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

TABLE I.—COMPARATIVE BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN THE YEAR 1947 :

	<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>Dorking Urban District</i>
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population		
BIRTHS—		
Live Births	20.5	18.7
Still Births	0.5	0.39
DEATHS—		
All Causes	12.0	11.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	0.02	—
Diphtheria	0.01	—
Influenza	0.09	0.05
Smallpox	0.00	—
Measles	0.01	—
NOTIFICATIONS—		
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.05
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.05	0.05
Scarlet Fever	1.37	0.39
Whooping Cough	2.22	2.20
Diphtheria	0.13	0.05
Erysipelas	0.10	0.05
Smallpox	0.19	—
Measles	9.41	8.75
Pneumonia	0.79	0.24
Rates per 1,000 Live Births		
DEATHS under 1 year of age	41.0	28.7
DEATHS from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.8	5.2
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)		
MATERNAL MORTALITY—		
Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	0.26	—
Other Maternal Causes	0.91	—
NOTIFICATIONS—		
Puerperal Pyrexia	7.16	25.6

Dorking Urban District Council

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1947

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	9,511
Population (Census 1931)	15,204
Population (estimated mid-year 1947)	20,460
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books at 31st December, 1947	5,056
Rateable value at 31st December, 1947	£200,002
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£792

The district comprises a rectangular shaped area lying under the southern slopes of the North Downs, with an extension to the north which includes Box Hill and the valley of the River Mole as it passes through the Downs. The subsoil is chiefly sand, with chalk areas to the north and clay to the south, and with gravel and alluvial deposits in the river valley. There is a corresponding diversity of scenery and vegetation, downland merging into woodland and common. The town forms the natural centre for several villages and hamlets, and is situated on main road and railway line to London. It is a popular residential place, in which agriculture, transport, brick-making, sand-digging, and some light industry create local employment.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	Total	M.	F.	
<i>Live Births:</i>				
Total live births ...	383	211	172	} Birth Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population 18.
Legitimate ...	355	200	155	
Illegitimate ...	28	11	17	
<i>Still Births:</i>				
Total still births ...	8	3	5	} Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 20.5
Legitimate ...	8	3	5	
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	
Deaths (net) ...	239	121	118	Crude death rate ... 11.
<i>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:</i>				
Total infant deaths ...	11	9	2	
Legitimate ...	11	9	2	
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	

Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births	28.7
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	31.0
Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Death from Puerperal Causes :	

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	—

Deaths from :

Measles (all ages)	—
Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	2
Cancer (all ages)	33

In Table II are collected, for comparative purposes, the birth, death and infant mortality rates for the period 1931-1947. The corresponding figures for England and Wales are also shown.

TABLE II. COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1931-1947

Period	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population (Annual Rates 1940-1947)		Average Annual Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population (Annual Rates 1940-1947)		Average Annual Death Rate of Children under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births (Annual Rates 1940-1947)	
	England & Wales	Dorking U.D.	England & Wales	Dorking U.D.	England & Wales	Dorking U.D.
1931-1940	14.9	14.4	12.2	12.2	68	31.0
1940	14.6	12.9	14.3	13.6	55	37.3
1941	14.2	13.0	12.9	13.0	59	34.9
1942	15.8	16.7	11.6	12.8	49	30.4
1943	16.5	16.7	12.1	13.5	49	44.6
1944	17.6	20.5	11.6	13.9	46	42.0
1945	16.1	15.0	11.4	12.4	46	17.6
1946	19.1	18.3	11.5	11.3	43	16.6
1947	20.5	18.7	12.0	11.7	41	28.7

BIRTHS

Live births numbered three hundred and eighty-three, of which two hundred and eleven were males and one hundred and seventy-two were females. The birth rate is 18.7 per 1,000 civilian population, and is higher than in 1946, but is still below the rate for England and Wales. Compared with the average rate in the decade before the last war, the present day figure is on a considerably higher level.

Eight still-births were notified, giving a still-birth rate of 0.39 per 1,000 civilian population, compared with a rate of 0.50 for England and Wales.

DEATHS

The number of deaths accredited to the area, after correction for inward transfer of Dorking residents dying outside the district and the outward transfer of non-residents was one hundred and twenty-one males and one hundred and eighteen females, giving a total of two hundred and thirty-nine. This represents a crude death rate of 11.7 per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population, compared with the rate of 12.0 for England and Wales as a whole. Reference to Table II shows that the death rate of the district has remained very constant for number of years.

The causes of death are set out in Table III.

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT

<i>Cause of Death</i>		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	—	1
3	Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria	—	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5	2	7
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
8	Syphilitic Disease	2	—	2
9	Influenza	1	—	1
10	Measles	—	—	—
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	2	2
12	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—
13	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (males)	1	—	1
13A	Cancer of Uterus (females)	—	—	—
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	6	11
15	Cancer of Breast	—	1	1
16	Cancer of all other sites	12	9	21
17	Diabetes	—	—	—
18	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	15	14	29
19	Heart Disease	38	47	85
20	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	4	2	6
21	Bronchitis	4	8	12
22	Pneumonia	3	1	4
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	—	1	1
24	Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	1	—	1
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	2	2
26	Appendicitis	—	—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases	1	2	3
28	Nephritis	1	4	5
29	Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	—	—	—
30	Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—
31	Premature Birth	3	—	3
32	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	5	1	6
33	Suicide	1	—	1
34	Road Traffic Accident	—	—	—
35	Other Violent Causes	3	1	4
36	All Other Causes	15	15	30
		121	118	239

INFANT MORTALITY

Death of children under one year of age numbered eleven; this includes nine males and two females. The infant mortality rate for the year is 28.7 per 1,000 live births compared with a rate of 41 for England and Wales. Eight of the deaths occurred within twenty-eight days of birth, and four of these within one day. In five deaths the cause was attributed directly or indirectly to prematurity. Of the remainder, three deaths were due to congenital malformation, two to bronchopneumonia, one to birth injury and one to gastro-enteritis.

Reference to Table II will show that a low infant mortality rate has been a feature of the vital statistics of this district for many years, although some deterioration occurred in the abnormal period of 1943 and 1944. The figures show the effectiveness of the various measures which have been taken in the past forty years for the specific purpose of preserving infant health and saving infant life. The pioneer efforts of medical and social workers were supported in the first place by voluntary welfare associations; at a later date legislation gave power to Urban Councils, County Borough Councils and certain other local authorities to set up a maternity and child welfare service. The activities of many persons in many different directions have built up in the comparatively short time of two generations the service as it is today, and have placed at the disposal of its staff the experience and information on which the modern methods of child care are based. Many improvements in the management of infants have been brought about, particularly in the technique of feeding, whether by breast or bottle. A great effort in the education of the public in these ideas has been made and credit is due to the medical and health visiting staff of the service who have spent a considerable proportion of their efforts in disseminating information of a practical nature. In considering the reasons for the continued fall in the infant mortality rate recognition should also be made of the willingness and ability of the modern mother to accept new ideas and to put them into practice in the home, often over great difficulties by reason of the housing shortage.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens taken by medical practitioners for bacterial examination in connection with the diagnosis of infectious diseases are sent to Dr. P. Chamberlain, Pathologist to the East Surrey and the Dorking District Hospitals.

During the year 1947 the number of examinations made was as follows:

For the diagnosis of Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	15
„ „ „ „ Haemolytic Streptococcal infections					13
„ „ „ „ Tuberculosis	...	...	...		3
„ „ „ „ Enteric Fever	...	...	...		1
					<hr/>
					32
					<hr/>

Laboratory examinations required to establish the diagnosis of suspected venereal disease in the communicable stage are arranged under the Surrey County Council's Venereal Diseases Scheme.

Samples of milk, food and water are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, established by the Medical Research Council at Epsom on behalf of the Ministry of Health. This laboratory is also available for examinations required in investigating the origin and spread of infectious disease.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The National Health Service Act places the ambulance service throughout the country under the control of the various county councils and county borough councils which act as local health authorities. Accordingly the district's ambulance service will be transferred to the Surrey County Council on 5th July, 1948, and 1947 will be the last full working year under present conditions. After transfer has taken place the local ambulance station will continue to be at the Fire Station, West Street (Telephone number, Dorking 2222), where application should be made for ambulances required in connection with illness or accident. There will be a sub-station, the nearest main station being at the Red Cross Hospital. The sub-station will continue to be operated by members of the British Red Cross Society.

A pamphlet has been received from the County Council's Health Department, which gives information on the use of the ambulance service, and the following details are extracted from it:

In the case of accidents in the home or elsewhere or in sudden illness in the street and public places any responsible person should call the ambulance to remove the patient. Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where birth is imminent, will not normally be removed without the authority of a Doctor or certified midwife. Cases should travel with the patient in the ambulance. The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned, or by the practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request, accompanied by a doctor's certificate, should be made to the County Medical Officer. Cases of infectious disease will be moved by the ambulance stationed at the isolation hospital to which the patient is to be removed.

Providing these requirements are fulfilled, no charge will be made to users.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME

GENERAL AND MATERNITY NURSING AND MIDWIFERY.—The Dorking Queen's District Nursing Association employs three nurse-midwives for general and maternity nursing and midwifery work in Dorking, North Holmwood, Westcott and Mickleham. Brockham is covered by both branches of nursing by the Brockham Nursing Association. Midwifery work is undertaken in this parish by the Betchworth and Le

Nursing Association. Box Hill is included in the area of the Walton and Headley Nursing Association. There is one midwife in the district engaged in private practice.

After July 5th, 1948, the National Health Service Act places on local health authorities, in this area the Surrey County Council, the duty of providing nurses and midwives, employed either by themselves or by voluntary organisations, to attend persons requiring attention in their own homes. The County Council proposes to carry out its obligations by supporting the continuance of the existing nursing associations, through the agency of the Surrey Nursing Association.

HOSPITALS

(1) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The Council's Isolation Hospital is situated at Logmore Lane, Westcott. It provides 27 beds.

Accommodation for cases of smallpox is provided at the Surrey Smallpox Hospital, Clandon, which is maintained by the Surrey County Council.

The Surrey County Council is responsible for the provision of institutional treatment for persons suffering from tuberculosis.

(2) GENERAL AND MATERNITY.—The Dorking and District Hospital is a voluntary hospital, maintaining 32 beds and a children's ward. Medical and surgical cases are admitted, but not maternity cases.

The Dorking County Hospital, situated in Horsham Road, is maintained by the Surrey County Council, and has accommodation for 171 patients. There are acute and chronic medical wards, surgical wards, and a maternity block.

In 1948 these hospitals will be transferred to the administration of the Regional Hospital Board.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

(a) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.—The County Council is the responsible authority for these services. The County Council Health Centre is situated at Dene Street, Dorking. Accommodation is hired and clinics are held at regular intervals at Westcott, North Holnwood and Box Hill. Voluntary clinics are in operation at Brockham and Mickleham.

(b) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—Clinics for immunisation against diphtheria are held by the Council's Medical Officer of Health at the County Council Health Centre, Dorking, with the assistance of the County Council Health Visitors. The treatment is available at all the infant welfare centres scheduled below.

(c) SCABIES.—The treatment of this condition is undertaken in the Out-patients department of the Dorking County Hospital.

(d) TUBERCULOSIS.—The County Council is the authority responsible for the provision and supervision of treatment. The Tuberculosis Officer holds clinics at the Dene Street Health Centre.

(e) VENEREAL DISEASES.—The County Council is responsible for the provision of diagnostic and treatment centres. None are situated in this area, but those most convenient are noted in list of clinics.

A time-table of clinics available is set out below :

<i>Ante-natal Clinic</i> ...	Dorking County Hospital	Friday, 9.30 a.m.
<i>Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics</i>	(1) S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking	Monday and Tuesday afternoons, 2—4 p.m.
	(2) The Village Hall, Brockham, (Voluntary)	1st and 3rd Fridays at 2 p.m.
	(3) The Reading Room, Westcott	2nd and 4th Mondays at 2 p.m.
	(4) The Brodie Hall, Box Hill	2nd and 4th Wednesday at 2 p.m.
	(5) Village Hall, North Holmwood	1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
<i>General School Medical Minor Ailments Clinics</i>	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking	Tuesdays, 9.30—12 noon
<i>Dental Clinic</i>	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking	By Appointment
<i>Eye Clinic</i>	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking	By Appointment
<i>Tuberculosis Dispensary</i>	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking	1st and 3rd Thursdays at 10 a.m.
<i>Scabies Treatment Clinic</i>	Dorking County Hospital, Out-patients Department	Mondays and Thursdays, 1.30 p.m.
<i>Veneral Diseases Clinics</i>	Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford	Males— Tuesdays and Fridays 5—7 p.m. Saturdays, 9.30—11.30 a.m. Females— Mondays, 2—7 p.m. and Thursdays, 9.30—11 a.m.
	Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common	Males— Wednesdays, 5—7 p.m. Females— Mondays, 5—7 p.m.

(And at the Out-patient Departments of many London Hospitals.)

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA WATER

There are two companies which undertake the supply of water to the district. Mickleham, Box Hill and Brockham are supplied by the East Surrey Water Company, and the remainder of the area by the Dorking Water Company.

The bulk of the water supplied by the East Surrey Water Company is obtained from borings into chalk at Purley, Kenley and Leatherhead. Before distribution it is softened by the addition of lime, and chlorinated and dechlorinated after an adequate period of contact. The methods of purification in use are adequate to deal with any possible pollution which might occur.

The Dorking Water Company obtains its water from a series of fifteen wells situated a little to the south of the Pippbrook stream shortly before it reaches the western outskirts of Dorking. The borings extend to a depth of 130 feet into the Folkestone beds, from which the water is siphoned to a reservoir situated at the works. After

chlorination it is pumped to covered service reservoirs. Despite the long dry summer and autumn adequate supplies continued to be maintained and no complaints of shortages were received.

Particulars of reports on typical samples of water are reproduced below.

DORKING WATER COMPANY

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER 100,000

Appearance: Bright with very few particles of mineral debris.	Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.0011
Turbidity: Less than 5 parts per million, Silica Scale.	Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs at 27° C. ...	0.005
Colour Normal	Metals	Absent
Reaction pH—On the acid side of neutrality ...	"Free Chlorine reaction" ...	Absent
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	Odour	Nil
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	Free Carbonic Acid ...	2.9
Hardness: Total ...	Total Solids, dried at 180° C.	22.0
Temporary 8.0 Permanent 7.0	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	10.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	Nitrites	Absent
Free Ammonia ...	Ammoniacal Nitrogen ...	—
	Albuminoid Nitrogen ...	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of "Bacteria" growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in 1 day at 37° C. ...	0
" " " " per c.c. or ml. in 2 days at 37° C. ...	0
" " " " per c.c. or ml. in 3 days at 20° C. ...	2
The Bacillus Coli Present in	Absent in 100 c.c.
Presumptive Coliform Reaction ...	" " — " " 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	" " — " " 100 c.c.

EAST SURREY WATER COMPANY

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER 100,000

Appearance: Bright—very slight film deposit of mineral debris consisting of chalk particles.	Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C. ...	0.005
Turbidity: Less than 5 parts per million, Silica Scale.	Metals	Absent
Colour Normal	"Free Chlorine reaction" ...	0.25
Reaction pH—Alkaline ...		part per million
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	Odour	nil
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	Free Carbonic Acid ...	Absent
Hardness: Total ...	Total Solids, dried at 180° C.	16.0
Temporary 2.5 Permanent 6.0	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	4.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	Nitrogen in Nitrites ...	Absent
Free Ammonia ...	Ammoniacal Nitrogen ...	—
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	Albuminoid Nitrogen ...	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

(Bacteriological sample dechlorinated on collection)

Number of "Bacteria" growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in 1 day at 37° C. ...	0
" " " " per c.c. or ml. in 2 days at 37° C. ...	0
" " " " per c.c. or ml. in 3 days at 20° C. ...	0
Presumptive Coliform Reaction ...	Present in — Absent in 100 c.c.
Bact. Coli	" " — " " 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	" " — " " 100 c.c.

As will be seen by the following figures, the great majority of houses are provided with a piped water supply delivered internally :—

Dwelling-houses supplied by wells	...	...	...	...	3
" " " " standpipes	...	...	...	...	22
" " " " piped main supply	...	...	...	...	4,973
" " " " piped private supply	...	...	...	...	3
" " " " other means	...	...	...	...	3

In addition there are several camp sites in the district where, owing to the housing shortage, temporary structures are being permanently occupied. The water supply in all these cases is from standpipes.

WATER ACT, 1945

Twenty-five dwelling houses have no separate water supply. In some cases, from two to four houses share a standpipe, and in the case of two cottages, both at railway crossings, water has to be delivered in containers by rail as no alternative supply is available within a reasonable distance.

As and when circumstances permit, efforts will be made to have all the remaining premises, where the requirement is reasonable within the meaning of the Act, provided with a piped supply to the house.

In addition, there are several camp sites in the area where, owing to housing shortage, some residents are in permanent occupation. The facilities for water supply, sanitation, etc., on these sites are communal and as their present use is one of expediency the requirement of a separate water supply to each permanently occupied dwelling is not justifiable. Similarly, the Council manage, on behalf of the Ministry of Health, a requisitioned ex-Army Camp, where 28 families are housed in Nissen huts. Main water is laid on to standpipes at convenient point for communal use.

The remainder of the dwelling-houses in the district, apart from three with private piped supplies, are supplied by public water main direct to the houses.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There are two sewage disposal works within the area, situated at Pixham Lane and at Brockham. The Pixham Lane works consist of settling tanks, filters and humus tanks, the effluent being discharged into the River Mole. Sludge is disposed of on the lower slopes of Box Hill, to which it is forced by compressed air through pipes from the works.

The Brockham works deal with sewage from Brockham, North Holmwood, and adjacent points of the Dorking and Horley Rural District. They consist of detritus tanks, settling tanks, percolating filters and humus tanks, the effluent being discharged into the River Mole. Sludge is dealt with in digestion tanks. Difficulty has been experienced at these works in consequence of a large amount of surface water entering the main outfall sewers from North Holmwood in wet weather.

Box Hill is the only inhabited area of any size which is not sewered.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Owing to shortage of labour and difficulties of transport, the former weekly collection over the whole area has had to be modified. Every effort is made to maintain a weekly collection of house refuse in the town area, and a fortnightly collection in the outlying villages.

Disposal continues to be partly by incineration at the Council's destructor, and partly by tipping at abandoned sewage works in Westcott and North Holmwood.

CAMP SITES AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS

The following licences were issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, during the year :

Licences to use land as a site for movable dwellings ... 13

Licences to erect or station and use a movable dwelling ... 13

The Senior Sanitary Inspector and his staff continue to pay close attention to the camp sites in the area.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

A complaint was received regarding the emission of sooty fumes from the exhaust of a diesel engine used for generating power and lighting in a factory.

Upon investigation it was found that the conditions did not warrant any statutory action, particularly as the owner of the premises had already sought the advice of firms expert in matters connected with Diesel engines, and carried out work in accordance with their recommendations.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

During the year, 176 inspections of shops were made. The conditions found and action taken are shown in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report, which also contains details of the record of all shops in the District.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are two privately owned open air swimming pools in the district. Both have modern chlorination plants and were sampled as in the previous year. On one occasion, an unsatisfactory report was received, due to the fact that a fault had occurred and proper chlorine "dosing" did not take place for a few hours. This fault was notified by the owner of the pool to the servicing company, and was rectified on the following day. The next sample, taken within a week, was quite satisfactory. A third swimming pool was found to have been opened to the public during the summer. This pool had not been used for many years and had no filtration or chlorination plant. As soon as it was known to be in use a sample was taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. The report showed fairly heavy contamination by B. Coli, type 1. The owner was notified at once, and informed that the water was unfit for swimming purposes. It was pointed out to him that the pool should not be used until such time as efficient means of purification had been installed. This notification had the satisfactory result of immediately putting the pool out of use to the general public.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928

There was no increase in the number of premises (6) previously reported as using rag flock for either upholstery, mattresses, or the manufacture of soft toys.

No samples were taken during the year.

SCHOOLS

At the Infants School reported last year as having inadequate sanitary accommodation, the erection of additional water closets was completed.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The Council's Rodent Operator also deals with bed bugs and other insect pests, under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who gives full details of the year's work.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

(1) Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to health, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors :

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i.) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	24	3	—
(ii.) Factories not included in (i.) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	85	109	1	—
(iii.) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	3	—	—
Total	105	136	4	—

(2) Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	3	—	1	—

In addition to the notices served under Part I of the Act and shown in the first table, 7 notices were served by the Senior Sanitary Inspector in connection with adequate means of escape in case of fire (Section 34), as he is the Council's authorised officer for the purpose of this Section. Of these notices 6 were complied with.

Eleven certificates were issued during the year. In this connection the Senior Inspector made his inspections accompanied by a Company Officer of the N.F.S., Fire Protection Department.

The Sanitary Inspectors' records of visits reveal that every factory in the area was inspected at least once in 1947. The majority of the factories are concerned with light industry, and the various categories, and the comparative sizes of the establishments, are given below.

The conditions found in the majority of cases were reasonably good:

Gross overcrowding was found in one non-power factory. As the result of notice, the business was moved from the totally inadequate premises then occupied.

The comparative sizes of the factories are as follows :

No. of factories with less than 10 employees	...	72
„ „ „ „ 10 to 25 „	...	12
„ „ „ „ 25 to 50 „	..	11
„ „ „ „ 50 to 75 „	...	4
„ „ „ „ 75 to 100 „	...	1
„ „ „ „ more than 100 „	...	2
Total		102

These factories are classified as follows :

	Power Factories	Non-Power Factories
Motor Vehicle Repair	13	1
Electric Generating Station	1	—
Gas Works	1	—
Cable Making	1	—
Tent Making	1	—
Clothiers	4	2
Cleaning and Pressing	1	1
Upholstery and Soft Furnishings	2	3
Lampshades and Toys	1	1
Laundries	2	—
Furriers	1	—
Flour Mills	2	—
Provender	1	—
Bakehouses	9	1
Timber and Fencing Works	2	—
Aerated Waters	1	—
Coach Building	2	—
Cork Paper Manufacture	1	—
Boot Repairs	5	—
Chaff Cutting and Corn Grinding	1	—
Agricultural Engineers	2	—
Sausage Manufacture	5	—
Paper Baling	1	—
Wire Processing	1	—
Watch Repairs	2	—
Radio Engineers	4	1
Printing	4	—
Builders, Engineering and Joinery	6	4
Tinsmith	1	—
Engineering (General)	4	—
Bacon Curing	1	—
Model Aircraft Manufacture	—	1
Monumental Mason	—	1
Leaded Window Manufacture	—	1
Cooker and Meter Repairs	1	—
Brickmaking	1	—
Total	85	17

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Full details of premises visited, defects or nuisances discovered and the action taken under the appropriate legal provisions will be found in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, with the result obtained.

4.—HOUSING

The year's statistics in connection with housing are set out below

The difficulties reported last year arising from the war-time neglect of property and the difficulty of executing repairs have not appreciably diminished. Despite this the Sanitary Inspectors succeeded in getting an appreciable amount of repair work done by owners and agents while in a number of cases the Council executed work in default, either by direct labour, or by contractors.

Although item I (3) on the following table (Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation) shows a Nil return, the Senior Sanitary Inspector referred for the opinion of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, ten dwelling-houses which appeared to be dangerous from a structural point of view to both occupants and passers-by. As a result of the Surveyor's inspection and report eight of the houses were dealt with under Sections 75 to 78, Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, as incorporated in Section 160 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and two under Section 58 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Final action will depend upon alternative accommodation being found for the occupants.

I. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	151
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,254
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	43
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	699
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	Nil
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	151

I. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	114
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

II. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	31
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	28
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	12

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	33
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	24
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	5

C. *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:*

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

D. *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:*

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

IV. *Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding:*

Except for one case of overcrowding which was dealt with on complaint and resulted in the abatement of overcrowding, the only statistics available are those derived from the Sanitary Inspectors' investigations into the present housing conditions of applicants for Council houses.

During the year 299 visits were made for this purpose, making a total, since this duty was undertaken by the Department, of 930.

The cases of overcrowding found during these visits are now as follows :

		Part Houses, Rooms, etc. During :		Whole Houses During :	
		1946	1947	1946	1947
Overcrowded by	$\frac{1}{2}$ unit ...	86	55	16	3
"	" 1 unit ...	31	31	16	9
"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$ units ...	13	10	1	—
"	" 2 units ...	6	6	3	—
"	" $2\frac{1}{2}$ units ...	—	4	3	—
"	" 3 units ...	1	—	3	—
"	" $3\frac{1}{2}$ units ...	1	1	—	—
Totals		138	107	42	12

The cases of overcrowding abated are as follows :

		Part Houses, Rooms, etc. During :		Whole House During :	
		1946	1947	1946	1947
Overcrowding abated by	$\frac{1}{2}$ unit ...	2	26	1	1
"	" " 1 unit ...	—	5	—	5
"	" " $1\frac{1}{2}$ units ...	1	3	—	—
"	" " 2 units ...	1	1	—	—
"	" " $2\frac{1}{2}$ units ...	—	1	—	—
"	" " $3\frac{1}{2}$ units ...	—	1	—	—
Totals		4	37	1	6

REHOUSING

During the year fifteen new houses were completed and occupied on the Council's estate and twenty-nine houses were erected by private enterprise. In the past two years forty-six families have been rehoused in requisitioned and converted premises and twenty-eight are living in hutments the maintenance of which is the responsibility of the Council.

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD MILK SUPPLY

The Senior Sanitary Inspector's report contains particulars of the number of cowkeepers and dairymen registered, and of the retailers supplying milk from premises within the area, and into the area from premises outside the Urban District boundaries.

Three producers are licensed by the Surrey County Council for the production of "Tuberculin Tested" milk, and nine for "Accredited" milk. The County Sampling Officers sample these supplies at source. During the year fifteen reports were unsatisfactory and were followed up by the County officials: the number of samples taken was not reported.

There is no licensed pasteurising plant in the district, but pasteurised milk supplies are available from three sources outside the boundaries.

MILK SAMPLES

During the year 102 samples of milk retailed in the Urban District, were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors, and the following summary of results is given below:

(1) Undesignated Milk

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test		Within Accredited Standard	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No.	%
16	14	2	14	2	14	87.5%

(2) Pasteurised Milk

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
86	78	8	83	3

(3) Biological Examination

No. of Samples	Tubercle Bacilli found	Tubercle Bacilli not found
4	Nil	4

The methylene blue and coliform examinations are designed to test cleanliness of production and subsequent preparation for retail. The phosphatase test is a measure of the efficiency of the heat-treatment applied in pasteurisation, and is therefore of particular interest to those who rely on this procedure to reduce the risk of the spread of infection through the consumption of raw milk. Three of the eighty-six samples taken were unsatisfactory, and the results of these were immediately reported to the health authority of the district in which the milk was treated. Subsequent information was received that the cause of the incomplete pasteurisation in one case was fuel shortage which was wide-spread at the time; in the second case worn out plant about to be replaced was given as the reason and in the third a mechanical defect developed which required specialist attention.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936

The following licences for the sale of designated milks granted by the Dorking Urban District Council, were in operation during the year :

Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, bottled by the Dealer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, obtained by the Dealer in bottles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dealer's Licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Supplementary Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Supplementary Licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There is no Ministry of Food slaughterhouse in the area, but the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report contains information regarding the inspection of animals inspected after emergency slaughter, and details of unsound foods surrendered and destroyed.

ICE CREAM. A schedule of the samples of ice-cream taken by the Sanitary Inspector will be found in his report with the appropriate grading for each sample based on bacteriological examination. The test on which the grading depends is the methylene blue reduction test and is of a provisional nature, having no statutory basis. The test is not claimed to be entirely satisfactory, but a series of samples does give an indication of the efforts which the manufacturer has made to produce a satisfactory article. Undoubtedly the increased attention which has been given to the subject of ice-cream in the past years has brought about improvements in the handling of this potentially dangerous article of diet.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the administrative authority for the sections of the Food and Drugs Act dealing with adulteration. Information has been received that during the year sixty-five samples were taken for analysis, of which forty-eight were of milk, eight of drugs and the remainder of miscellaneous articles of foodstuffs. Four samples of milk and two of drugs were found to be adulterated or deteriorated. No legal proceedings were undertaken.

6.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1947, classified according to age and sex, together with the number of patients removed to isolation hospital, and the number of deaths, if any, from the various diseases.

SMALLPOX.—No case of smallpox was notified during the year. No primary vaccination or re-vaccination was performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

VACCINATION.—It may be noted that one of the results of the National Health Service Act will be the abolition of compulsory vaccination, and of the appointment of public vaccinators. Instead, local health authorities, in this area the Surrey County Council, are required to make a scheme for providing vaccination for all who seek it. The County Council proposes that the treatment should be given either by the applicant's own doctor or by its public health staff, at the nearest health centre. At the request of the County Council, the local supervision of the scheme and the keeping of records have been made the duty of the Urban District Council's Medical Officer of Health.

SCARLET FEVER.—Eight notifications were received during the year, compared with thirteen in 1946. The case-rate was 0.39 per 1,000 civilian population, compared with 1.37 for England and Wales. All of the patients were admitted to hospital for treatment.

DIPHTHERIA.—One case of diphtheria was notified, the case-rate was 0.05 per 1,000 civilian population, compared with 0.14 for England and Wales. The patient concerned was a boy aged eleven years, living in and going to a school at Westcott. He had been immunised five years previously. While there was no doubt as to the nature of the disease, the course of the illness was undoubtedly modified to the patient's advantage by the partial immunity which he no doubt retained from the treatment. Following the occurrence of this case special efforts were quickly made in Westcott to immunise or re-immunise as many children as possible who required treatment. Despite considerable investigation the source of the infection was not traced. No other cases were reported.

The downward tendency of diphtheria incidence and mortality rates will be noticed on reference to Table V, in which are tabulated the yearly figures since 1934. In my opinion this satisfactory feature is the result of several factors, of which I consider the more important to be the improved general care of children's health, both in the home and at school; the speedy and effective steps taken in co-operation by medical practitioners, the school medical authority and the local public health department in detecting and isolating suspected sources of infection; and, particularly in the last few years, in the controlled introduction of immunisation by appropriate treatment.

TABLE IV

Disease	Cases Notified																Total all ages both sexes Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital
	Under 1 year		1 to 3		3 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 15		15 to 25		25 years or over		All Ages		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	8
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio myelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	1	5
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	6	—	10	10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	2	3	11	11	17	22	50	50	3	6	—	1	1	2	84	95	179
Whooping Cough ...	1	3	2	9	4	6	6	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	14	31	4
Totals ...	4	7	14	20	24	29	58	66	6	7	1	5	4	11	111	145	256

TABLE V.—INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN DORKING
URBAN DISTRICT, 1934-47

Year	No. of Cases Notified	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population	No. of Deaths	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
1934 ...	1	0.06	—	—
1935 ...	4	0.24	1	0.06
1936 ...	19	1.14	2	0.12
1937 ...	4	0.24	—	—
1938 ...	2	0.12	1	0.06
1939 ...	4	0.22	2	0.11
1940 ...	3	0.15	—	—
1941 ...	3	0.14	—	—
1942 ...	1	0.05	—	—
1943 ...	1	0.05	—	—
1944 ...	—	—	—	—
1945 ...	1	0.05	—	—
1946 ...	—	—	—	—
1947 ...	1	0.05	—	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—Active immunisation against diphtheria has now been in operation in the district since 1935 and can claim a part in the reduction of the incidence and mortality rates which has occurred. The downward tendency of these rates, particularly as they relate to private residents, can be seen by referring to Table V. The ideal is for every child to receive a primary treatment of two injections at about the age of nine months, with further single injections at five, ten and fifteen years of age to reinforce the original treatment. It is not claimed even with such treatment that absolute immunisation will be attained by every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is nearly thirty times as great.

Clinics are held at regular intervals at the County Council's Welfare Centres at Dene Street, Dorking, and at North Holmwood, Westcott, and Boxhill. Treatment can also be obtained at the voluntary welfare centres operating in Brockham and Mickleham. Details of these arrangements are set out in part 2 of this report, which are intended to apply primarily to infants and others under school age. In conjunction with the education authority, clinics have been organised in the schools for pupils requiring treatment, usually the reinforcing course. Parents are informed of the need of further treatment and of the facilities available following the systematic medical inspections which take place during the school life of every child. As a result largely of the support of the teachers and the school medical service, an excellent response has been obtained to this newly organised growth of the diphtheria immunisation campaign. The administration of the treatment in the schools has been in the hands of the school medical service.

During the year two hundred and sixty-seven children are known to have completed primary immunisation and three hundred and thirty-four to have received secondary treatment. Of the former two hundred and twenty were aged between one and two years, representing 60.9% of the births registered in the district during the previous year. Probably many children have been treated privately, or in other districts, about whom information has not been received.

It is known that eight hundred and ninety-one children under the age of five years and two thousand, one hundred and five over five years but under fifteen years have now received treatment equivalent to percentages of 54% and 79.4% respectively of the estimated population of these age groups.

As with vaccination, immunisation against diphtheria has become the responsibility of the County Council under the Health Service Act. The County Council scheme contemplates that the treatment will be obtained either from the family doctor or at the nearest clinic. The local supervision of the scheme and the recording of the results have been delegated to the Urban District Council's Medical Officer of Health.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND ACUTE POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS (INFANTILE PARALYSIS)

In common with the rest of the country the Urban District suffered in the largest outbreak of infantile paralysis yet recorded in this island, though not to the extent of some other areas in Surrey. Three notifications were received relating to persons residing in the district at the time of the onset of their illness giving an incidence rate of 0.15. All were in school children aged 12, 7 and 5 years respectively: the two younger children were brother and sister probably both infected by a common source. There was no apparent connection between them and the third patient. These were not severe cases in that life was not endangered, but in a fourth case affecting a Dorking woman on holiday the disease took a fulminant form until a fatal termination. The probable mode of spread was either by mild cases of the disease which did not develop paralytic symptoms, or by healthy carriers of the causative virus. However, the occurrence of the outbreak in the hot summer with the housefly present in greater numbers than usual required attention to be given to the possibilities that these insects might be a factor in spreading the virus, as has been suggested in some quarters. To discourage the fly pest, pig waste bins, a favourite breeding place, were withdrawn for a time from their place at the side of the highway.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

All notifications received, ten in number, related to the patients in the maternity wards of the Dorking County Hospital. Eight of the mothers affected were normally resident in the adjacent districts within the area from which the hospital draws its midwifery cases. This results in the district having the high incidence rate of 25.6 compared with the rate of 7.16 for England and Wales.

MEASLES.—One hundred and seventy-nine cases of measles were notified during the year. The peak of the epidemic occurred in December. More than half the patients were in the age group five to ten years. There were no deaths from the disease. The incidence rate was 8.75 per 1,000 civilian population compared with the rate of 9.41 for England and Wales.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Forty-five notifications of whooping cough were received during the year. The incidence rate was 2.20 compared with 2.22 for England and Wales. The majority of the cases occurred in children aged between three and ten years. Fortunately there were no deaths from the disease, but of all the acute infections in children, whooping cough now takes first place as a cause of temporary and frequently of permanent disability and the illness is often aggravated by complications which may be fatal. It is extremely infectious and it is impossible to prevent its spread without complete dislocation of organised community life of the child population. Intensive research work is taking place on the production of an effective immunising agent capable of easy administration and free from unpleasant reactions. Some materials have already been marketed, the results of which have not yet been published. Promising claims are made by the manufacturers. The National Health Service Act places the responsibility

for introducing new methods of immunisation against infectious diseases on the County Council as local authority. If favourable opinions are formed on the efficiency of these new laboratory products it is hoped that they will be included without delay in the County Council's scheme. Meanwhile many medical practitioners are already giving the treatment at the request of parents, and consider that they are obtaining good results.

ENTERIC FEVER

One notification of typhoid fever was received, and none of paratyphoid fever. The case of typhoid fever was in a young man whose infection did not appear likely to have been contracted in the district. The patient was a keen oarsman, and a suspicious circumstance of his history was frequent and close contact with the River Thames, in the course of which water may have been imbibed. This notification gives the district an incidence rate of 0.05, compared with one of 0.02 for England and Wales.

TUBERCULOSIS

Twenty-two names were added to the tuberculosis register during the year. They include fourteen of persons already domiciled in the district and eight of persons who came to live here from other areas in which they had already been notified. Eighteen of the notifications related to the pulmonary form of the disease and four to non-pulmonary. Seven deaths occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis, representing an annual death rate of 0.34 per 1,000 population. No deaths were caused by non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The total tuberculosis death rate of 0.34 compared with a rate of 0.55 for England and Wales.

An analysis into types of disease and age groups is to be found in Table VI.

TABLE VI

	Primary Notifications Relating to Persons Resident in the Dorking Urban District				Secondary Notifications of Persons Already Notified in Other Districts and Now Resident in The Dorking Urban District				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 to 20	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 25	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 to 45	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 to 65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Totals	6	5	2	1	4	3	—	1	5	2	—	—

For comparative purposes figures relating to the notification of the mortality from tuberculosis between the years 1938-47 are set out in Table VII. The notification figures are those for persons domiciled in the district at the time of the diagnosis of the disease, and are lower than in the later years of the war. The death rate has remained constant for a number of years, with the exception of 1945 when it showed considerable rise. There is however no evidence of a sustained fall. For this reason it is unfortunate that no shortening can be reported of the period during which patients are obliged to wait for a hospital or sanatorium bed. Several months' interval between recommendation for admission and the provision of a bed is the common experience. In this time there is likely to be a further deterioration in health, and an increased risk of infection is placed on the other members of the household. Under the National Health Service Act hospitals will be placed in the hands of the new authority, and it is hoped that increased efforts will be made to remedy a situation for which blame is placed principally on the shortage of nurses and domestic staff.

During the year the Mass-Radiography Unit operated by the Surrey County Council visited Dorking. Very suitable premises were provided by the Urban District Council in the building formerly used as a First Aid Post in the grounds of Pippbrook. During its stay two thousand, four hundred and fifty-eight persons were examined.

TABLE VII.—TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY
1938-1947

Year	Population	Total Primary Notifications	Rate per 1,000 Population	Total Deaths	Death Rat per 1,000 Population
1938	17,110	15	0.88	5	0.29
1939	17,320	10	0.58	5	0.27
1940	20,510	19	0.92	8	0.39
1941	21,420	19	0.88	8	0.38
1942	19,170	15	0.78	8	0.40
1943	18,800	19	1.01	4	0.21
1944	18,600	20	1.08	7	0.38
1945	18,920	19	1.00	13	0.69
1946	19,780	10	0.51	6	0.30
1947	20,460	14	0.68	7	0.34

URBAN DISTRICT OF DORKING

Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector for the year 1947

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
PIPPBROOK,
DORKING.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I submit herewith my Annual Report on the work of your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1947.

The number of complaints received continues to increase, but it is pleasing to be able to note that the number of Notices outstanding at the end of the year is 60 less than the figure brought forward at its commencement, proving, I think, that Notices are being complied with more quickly. This is probably due to the salutary effect of the Council executing work in default in several cases, and the need for such action diminished steadily as the year progressed.

Routine inspections of shops, factories, food premises, licensed premises, etc., were carried out as fully as possible, and our records brought up to date.

As in the previous year, a great deal of time was taken up by visiting applicants for Council houses in order to assess their "housing need" in connection with the Points Scheme. In addition to visiting new applicants, there was a constant need for revision of cases previously visited, owing to change in circumstances.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of thanking my colleagues for their willing co-operation, Dr. Ive for his continued help, advice and support, and members of the Council, particularly those of the Housing and Sanitary Committee, for their careful consideration of the matters I bring before them.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. ALLAN,

Senior Sanitary Inspector,

INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS

The number of visits and inspections carried out during the year is summarised below :

GENERAL SANITATION :

Water Supply	5
Drainage	262
Stables and Piggeries	11
Fried Fish Shops	9
Common Lodging-Houses	5
Camp Sites	72
Tents, Vans and Sheds	1,210
Factories with Mechanical Power	110
Factories without Mechanical Power	26
Bakehouses	46
Refuse Collection	588
Refuse Disposal	15
Rats and Mice	5,136
Schools	23
Shops	176
Swimming Pools	25
Wasp Nests	5
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	299

HOUSING :

Under Public Health Acts :	
No. of Houses Inspected	108
Re-inspections	455
Under Housing Acts :	
No. of Houses Inspected	43
Re-inspections	699
Overcrowding :	
No. of Houses Inspected	2
Vermineous Premises :	
No. of Premises Inspected	9
Re-inspections	60
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	404

INFECTIOUS DISEASES :

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases	20
Visits re Disinfection	29
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	20

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION :

Inspection of Meat :	
Visits to Slaughterhouses	8
Visits to Shops and Stalls	126
Visits to :	
Butchers	144
Fishmongers and Poulterers	24
Grocers	82
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	4
Cowsheds	21
Dairies and Milk Shops	53
Ice-Cream Premises	32
Food Preparing Premises	251
Market Stalls	4
Restaurants	66
Street Vendors	54

Visits in connection with Sampling:

Milk—Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	102
Milk—Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ice-Cream—Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	18
Water	...	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	...	...	...	13
Total						10,899

NOTICES ISSUED AND ACTION TAKEN

The notices served and the results of such action are given in their respective categories, but the totals are as follows, and show that on the year's working an overall reduction of 60 in the number of notices outstanding was achieved:

PRELIMINARY:

Outstanding on 1st January, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	124
Issued during the year	...	...	...	...	...	331
Complied with during the year	...	...	...	...	...	265
Statutory Action necessary	...	...	...	...	...	115
Outstanding on 31st December, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	86

STATUTORY:

Outstanding on 1st January, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	42
Issued during the year	...	...	...	...	...	115
Complied with during the year	...	...	...	...	...	102
Action in default taken	...	...	...	...	...	35
Outstanding on 31st December, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	20

COMPLAINTS

Three hundred and forty-five complaints (apart from those in connection with rodent infestation) were received from the public, as follows:

Insanitary condition of premises	...	...	...	...	...	131
Drainage—houses	...	...	...	...	...	26
Drainage—other premises	...	...	...	...	...	10
Overflowing cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inadequate cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	144
House refuse	...	...	...	...	...	4
Trade refuse	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kitchen waste street bins	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unsound food	...	...	...	...	...	8
Vermineous premises	...	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	2
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	...	1
House in filthy condition	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stagnant ponds	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smoke nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total						345

DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED, NUISANCES ABATED, ETC.

The inspection of dwelling-houses and consequent action resulted in the following conditions being found and remedied. Due to the clearing up of work outstanding from the previous year, the conditions remedied show a surplus over those found in most cases.

	Found	Remedied
Houses requiring decorations	19	23
Houses requiring plastering	21	30
Dampness in walls	21	34
Defective roofs	43	51
Defective eavesgutters	28	42
Defective downspouts	15	23
Defective chimneystacks	27	28
Defective brickwork	16	29
Defective windowframes	11	28
Defective sashcords and fasteners	7	4
Defective floors	13	33
Defective doors	7	10
Defective doorhoods	3	—
Defective fireplaces	6	16
Defective kitchen ranges and ovens	15	24
Defective washboilers	7	11
Defective sinks and waste pipes	6	12
Defective sink waste pipes	3	6
Defective water supply pipes	15	14
Defective w.c. cisterns	20	25
Defective w.c. pedestals	25	30
Defective drains	44	52
Defective w.c. seats	3	4
Defective taps	1	2
Houses with insufficient light	—	3
Houses in a filthy and unwholesome condition	1	1
Defective cesspools	—	2*
Overflowing cesspools	1	1
Cesspools of inadequate size	2	3*
Defective hot water tank	1	1
Defective urinals	2	2
Defective vent. to soil pipes	1	1
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	1	—
Defective stairtreads and risers	2	2
Defective yard surfaces and passages	2	9
Accumulations of refuse	7	7
Defective ashbins	129	176

(*Note.—2 conversions to water carriage system; 1 cesspool of adequate size provided and 2 pail closets converted to w.c.s. and connected thereto; 2 cesspools for four houses discontinued—2 sewage filtration plants provided and 4 w.c.s. in lieu of earth closets connected thereto.)

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH DURING THE YEAR, AND NOTICES OUTSTANDING AT 31st DECEMBER, 1947

(1) HOUSING ACT, 1936

No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding, 1st January, 1947 ...	48
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding, 1st January, 1947 ...	20
No. of Preliminary Notices served	42
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	37
No. of Statutory Notices served	31
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	28
No. of Houses where Work in default carried out	12
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding, 31st December, 1947	22
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding, 31st December, 1947 ...	11

(2) PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

	Houses	Other Premises	Ashbins
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding, 1st January, 1947	22	2	38
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding, 1st January, 1947	1	—	18
No. of Preliminary Notices served	112	13	130
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	77	11	111
No. of Statutory Notices served	33	3	47
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	24	—	48
Work in Default carried out	5	1	17
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding, 31st December, 1947	31	4	10
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding, 31st December, 1947	5	2	—

(3) WATER ACT, 1945, SECTION 30

No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding, 1st January, 1947 ...	4
No. of Preliminary Notices served	1
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding, 31st December, 1947...	5

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

(a) MEAT INSPECTED AT TIME OF SLAUGHTER.—At premises formerly used as slaughter-houses, the following animals were killed and inspected :

Heifers 1	Calves 2	Swine 4
--------------	-------------	------------

Found to be diseased :

Entire carcase and organs of calf ...	41 lbs. (Septicaemia)
Head and pluck of pig	21 lbs. (Tuberculosis)
Total ...	62 lbs.

(b) MEAT (INSPECTED IN SHOPS) AND OTHER FOODS.—Examination revealed that the following foodstuffs were unfit for human consumption, and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :

Commodity	Nos.	Tins	Jars	Weight				
				Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Beef: English ...	—	—	—	—	17	2	18	1
Imported ...	—	—	—	—	7	2	16	4
Veal ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Pork ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—
Mutton and Lamb ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	—
Offal ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	17	12
Sausages and Sausage Meat ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	14	4
Bacon and Ham ...	—	1	—	—	1	3	4	—
Fish ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	14	—
Fishcakes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—
Canned Meat ...	—	—	—	—	7	3	18	4
Canned Vegetables ...	—	1656	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canned Milk ...	—	1792	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canned Fish ...	—	672	1	—	—	—	—	—
Canned Soup ...	—	190	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canned Fruit ...	—	284	5	—	—	—	—	—
Cheese ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	14	—
Flour ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	—
Cereals ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	12
Biscuits ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	24	12
Pickles and Sauces ...	—	—	620	—	—	—	—	—
Preserves ...	—	337	26	—	—	—	—	—
Savouries ...	—	68	97	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee (bottles) ...	—	—	41	—	—	—	—	—
Potatoes ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Eggs ...	312	—	—	—	—	2	—	12
Frozen Eggs ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dried Eggs ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bread (loaves) ...	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	339	5002	790	3	4	3	4	13

Members of the Council expressed serious concern at the amount of English Beef certified as unfit for human consumption on account of heating and internal decomposition, bad manurial contamination, and excessive blood clotting due to inadequate bleeding.

A full report on the circumstances was presented to the Housing and Sanitary Committee, and resulted in a recommendation, which was accepted by the Council, that the Clerk should communicate with the Ministry of Food with reference to the serious wastage of food and suggest that during the "peak kill" periods slaughtering should be de-centralised (from Croydon slaughter-house), and, in addition, that the local Member of Parliament should be requested to table a Question in the House on the matter.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The register of food premises now includes the following, which are analysed under trade headings and show classes of food sold. In some cases one business may be allocated under two headings :

Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	46
Confectioners (Cakes, Pastries, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	22
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	10
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	16
Retail Grocers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	46
Wholesale Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	14
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bacon Smoking Factory	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sausage Factory	...	...	...	...	...	1

OTHER VENDORS OF FOOD.—There are in the district five fishmongers who carry on their business from vans or other vehicles, and one who sets up a temporary stall on market days.

Four fruiterers and greengrocers are mobile vendors.

PREMISES IN RESPECT OF WHICH NOTICES WERE SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH UNDER SECTION 13 OF THE ACT

(a) PRELIMINARY NOTICES :

Class of Premises	Brought Forward	Served	Complied with	Outstanding 31/12/47
Restaurant Kitchens	3	5	8	Nil
Bakehouses	1	3	1	3
Butchers	1	—	—	1
Grocers	—	6	6	Nil
Fish Fryers	1	—	1	Nil
Fishmongers	1	—	—	1
Fruiterer and Greengrocer	—	1	—	1

(b) STATUTORY NOTICES :

Restaurant Kitchens	1	—	1	Nil
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CONDITIONS FOUND TO REQUIRE SERVICE OF NOTICES AND THE RESULTS OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER SECTION 13 OF THE ACT

	Brought Forward	Found	Remedied	Outstanding 31/12/47
Inlet into drain communicating with the room	2	—	2	Nil
Walls, ceilings, floors, windows and doors not kept in proper state of repair	7	6	9	4
Redecoration required	7	7	9	5
Insufficient ventilation	3	4	5	2
Accumulations of solid and liquid refuse	—	4	4	Nil
Tables, benches, floors, etc., inadequately cleansed	—	4	4	Nil
Utensils kept in dirty condition	—	1	1	Nil
Hot and cold water supply required	3	2	2	3
Lack of towels	3	1	2	2
Insufficient washbasins	2	2	2	2

PROSECUTION.—In the case of bakehouse premises at 33, Hampstead Road, Dorking, the Council, after consideration of a full report on an inspection made on the 27th June, 1947, when contraventions of Section 13 (1), (c), (d), (f), (g) and (h) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, existed in a cellar in which food intended for human consumption was found to be deposited for the purpose of preparation for sale, authorised the laying of information and prosecution on the Council's behalf.

After an adjournment the case was finally heard before the Dorking Bench on the 7th January, 1948, when the firm occupying the premises was fined £5, and the Director, for failing to take all such steps as were reasonably necessary to prevent risk of contamination of food in the room contrary to Section 13 (2), (b), of the Act, was fined £15 and £5 5s. costs.

SHOPS ACT, 1934

During the year 176 visits were made. The register of Shops now totals 309 premises (including licensed premises) set out below. Each of these is classified under the main heading of goods sold.

Tobacco and Confectionery (Sweets, etc.)	...	...	...	...	18
Confectionery (Cakes, Pastries, etc.)	...	...	...	...	15
Chemists	...	...	...	...	9
Newsagents and Stationers	...	...	...	...	13
Outfitters, Tailors, Milliners and Drapers, etc.	...	...	...	...	31
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	14
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	6
Electrical and Radio	...	...	...	...	6
Furnishers	...	...	...	...	9
Boots and Shoes	...	...	...	...	17
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	46
Jewellers	...	...	...	...	3
Opticians	...	...	...	...	3
Ironmongers and Hardware Stores	...	...	...	...	8
Grocers	...	...	...	...	47
Fruiters and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	10
Butchers	...	...	...	...	16
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	28
Vacant Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Total					309

The following conditions were found to require the service notices :

	Found	Remed
Premises without w.c. accommodation	5	1
Premises with insufficient w.c. accommodation	—	1
Premises with inadequate ventilation	—	1
Premises with insufficient natural lighting	2	1
	W.Cs.	Natu
No. of Preliminary Notices served	5	Ligh
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	1	2
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	1	1
Certificates of Exemption Issued	3+1*	—

MILK AND DAIRIES

The number of cowkeepers, retail purveyors, etc., in the district, as follows :

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Dairymen and Retail Purveyors with Premises in the District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Retail Purveyors with premises outside the District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Retail Purveyors, bottled milk only, sold in general shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Dairies (including 4 milkshops)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

One preliminary notice was served requiring alterations to a shed.

ICE CREAM

Eighteen samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows :

Sample Number	Methylene Blue Test	Coliform Test
1	Grade 4	Absent in three tubes of 1/10 ml.
2	—	" " " " " " " "
		(Plate Count: 360,000)
3	Grade 2	Present in one tube of 1/10 ml.
		Absent in two tubes of 1/10 ml.
4	Grade 2	Absent in three tubes of 1/10 ml.
5	Grade 4	Present in three tubes of 1/10 ml.
6	Grade 4	Present in two tubes of 1/10 ml.
		Absent in one tube of 1/10 ml.
7	Grade 3	Absent in three tubes of 1/10 ml.
8	Grade 2	" " " " " " " "
9	Grade 1	Present in three tubes of 1/10 ml.
10	Grade 2	" " " " " " " "
11	Grade 1	" " " " " " " "
12	Grade 2	" " " " " " " "
13	Grade 1	" " " " " " " "
14	Grade 1	" " " " " " " "
15	Grade 1	" " " " " " " "
16	Grade 1	" " " " " " " "
17	Grade 1	Absent in three tubes of 1/10 ml.
18	Grade 4	Present in three tubes of 1/10 ml.

As the laboratory did not automatically "type" the coliform bacilli request for typing was made. Following this, in the case of samples no. 14 (the first to be reported), 15, 16 and 18, the laboratory indicated that the organisms were not faecal in origin.

CAMP SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Although no complete survey was carried out within a given period during the year, every site was inspected periodically, and the attention of the licensees was drawn to any infringement of the licence conditions, or to any matters which might in time give rise to a nuisance.

The number of converted bus and tram bodies was reduced from 15 to 13 (of which 4 were used for storage only).

General improvement could be largely attributed to increased co-operation from site owners, probably as the result of a meeting held in the Brodie Room, Boxhill Road, in February, when the owners of sites and of known individual moveable dwellings were addressed by Councillor C. D. Aarvold, Chairman of the Council's Town Planning and Building Plans Committee. These owners then had the chance of questioning the Chairman and the Council's Officers on various points, and the discussion seemed to clear up several misunderstandings which had existed previously.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

When the Keeper of the Common Lodging-House applied for renewal of his registration, the Committee, being aware that he was so seriously ill as to necessitate a lengthy stay in hospital, asked for the name of a suitable Deputy Keeper to be submitted.

No suitable person was nominated by the Keeper and the matter was deferred pending reports by the Medical Officer of Health and the Senior Sanitary Inspector on the state of the premises.

These reports were to the effect that the premises could no longer be considered suitable. In addition, there were letters of complaint from residents in the neighbourhood of the Common Lodging-House.

The Committee was satisfied that the former Keeper was not a fit person by reason of age and ill-health to keep the Lodging-House and was in fact causing inconvenience and annoyance to persons residing in the neighbourhood, and accordingly recommended to the Council, on the 30th September, 1947, that the applicant's registration be not renewed.

The whole question was re-opened by the agents of the property, who put forward a nominee of their own for registration.

The following minute of the Housing and Sanitary Committee was approved by the Council on the 25th November, 1947 :

"The Committee received the following report of a Meeting of a Sub-Committee (Councillors Bell, Gordon, Covell and Trim) held on the 7th November, 1947, for the purpose of considering an application for registration as Keeper of the Common Lodging-House :"

"The Committee interviewed Mr. Geo. Collins, applicant for Registration as Keeper of the Common Lodging-House, Church Street, Dorking."

"It was Resolved to Recommend : .

"(a) That the Sanitary Inspector prepare a Schedule of his minimum requirements for repairs, etc., required to render the premises fit for use as a Common Lodging-House, such Schedule to be approved by the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the Committee."

"(b) That Messrs. Cubitt & West, agents for the property, requested to give an undertaking that the work detailed in the Inspector's Schedule will be put in hand."

“(c) In the event of Messrs. Cubitt & West giving such undertaking, that Mr. Collins be registered as Keeper for a trial period of six months.”

“The Sanitary Inspector reported that in accordance with the Sub-Committee’s instructions he had communicated with Messrs. Cubitt & West and a reply from Messrs. Cubitt & West was presented.”

“Messrs. Cubitt & West stated that they would be prepared to carry out certain repairs and would provide materials to enable Mr. Collins to carry out certain other work. The Committee was not satisfied with the position and it was resolved that Messrs. Cubitt & West be informed that the matter had been deferred until the next Meeting of the Committee, pending receipt of the undertaking requested.”

By the end of the year no further progress had been made.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 20 visits of enquiry were carried out in respect of infectious diseases.

Following notifications by Port Health Authorities, five persons arriving in this country who had been in contact with cases of small-pox or cholera were kept under surveillance.

The following treatments were carried out in the Council’s Steam Disinfector :

	Bedding				Furnishings	Total
	Beds	Mattresses	Bolsters and Pillows	Blankets, etc.	Cushions, etc.	
Notifiable Diseases ...	1	3	13	8	—	25
Other Diseases ...	9	8	33	16	20	86
German ...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	10	12	46	24	20	112

In addition, thirteen rooms were disinfected after the removal of P.B. patients, four after non-notifiable diseases, and one after scarlet fever, at the request of the doctor in attendance.

RODENT AND INSECT PESTS

(1) RODENT CONTROL

The summary of the year's work is given below. In addition, the keeping of full records, apportionment of costs, and preparation of reports for the Divisional Rodent Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture took up a considerable amount of time.

No. of complaints received from public: Rats	...	...	...	79
Mice	...	...	...	37
No. of inspections and re-inspections by Rodent Operator	...	...	...	5,136
No. of premises where treatment was still in hand, 31/12/46	...	...	...	8
No. of premises where treatment was completed by Rodent Operator during the year	...	...	...	256
No. of premises where maintenance treatment was carried out at regular intervals (e.g., refuse tips, sewage disposal works, warehouses, etc.)	...	...	...	14
No. of premises where treatment was still in hand, 31/12/47	...	...	...	6
No. of premises referred to other bodies (e.g., Surrey County Council and Southern Railway)	...	...	...	4
Estimated number of rats killed by poison baiting (using Ministry of Agriculture formula)	...	...	...	1,342

The premises treated may be classified under the following headings :

Dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
Restaurants, Hotels, Canteens, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Shops: Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Council's Destructor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Banks of streams and ditches	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sewage Disposal Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nurseries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Allotments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hutted Camp	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

It will be noted that the number of infestations treated is much larger than the number of complaints. This is due to the fact that from 1st April, 1947, the Council availed themselves of the facilities afforded by Circulars N.S. 12 and 15 of the Ministry of Food, Information Division, which meant the carrying out of a survey of the district and the free treatment of infestations found in connection with dwelling-houses.

The scheme will not finish until the 31st March, 1948, so it is not possible to give final results. It is possible, however, to say that to be able to offer free treatment to house-holders has resulted in much better co-operation and consequently the opportunity of dealing simultaneously and more effectively with several adjacent properties.

(2) VERMINOUS PREMISES

As a result of complaints and inspections six fresh premises (one of which was a Council house) were found to be verminous, and all infestations were successfully carried out in all cases :

(a) *Bed Bugs*

10. of houses—4 (total of 18 rooms). Retreatment carried out in 1 room.
 10. of other premises—1 (total of 2 rooms). Retreatment carried out in 1 room.
 Treatment in each case was carried out with Zaldecide and D.D.T.

(b) *Lice*

One house was disinfested with Zaldecide and D.D.T.

(3) NON-VERMINOUS

(a) *Cockroaches*

Disinfestation by means of 4-cide powder was carried out in eighteen rooms, and periodic treatment at two bakehouses.

(b) *Wasp Nests*

As a result of complaints and inspections, four wasp nests were treated and destroyed.

(c) *Mosquitoes*

Three ponds were found to be infested, and treatments were successfully carried out with kerosene and D.D.T., and Pearson's parvicide.

(d) *Flies*

Four cases (involving eight rooms) of heavy infestation by flies were reported. Treatment by Zaldecide and D.D.T. resulted in a considerable "kill" at the time of treatment, and from time to time reports were received of the discovery of further large accumulations of dead flies.

Unfortunately the causes of the infestations were not found. The flies were of the species *musca autumnalis*, and in all cases the parts of the houses mainly affected faced south or south-west, thus deriving most benefit from the sun, and the external walls were cream or white in colour, and seemed to attract the flies which rested there in masses whenever the sun shone.

In addition to the above, periodic treatments were carried out for cockroaches and flies at the British Restaurant.

